

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5, 7-12, 14-23, and 26-44 are currently pending in this application.

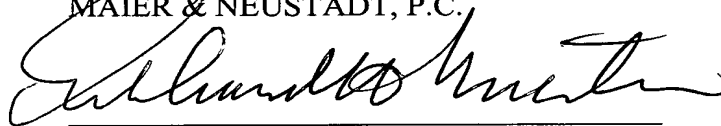
Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1-4, 8, 14, 19-23, and 26-44. The present amendment amends Claim 40, Claims 6, 13, 24 and 25 having been previously canceled.

The present amendment corrects an informality uncovered in Claim 40 during a post allowance review of the present application. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.

Accordingly, Applicants acted diligently to submit this amendment and entry thereof prior to issuance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)